

Gas Distribution Integrity Management Meeting on May 17-19, 2005, in Dallas, Texas

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) plans to conduct several work group meetings in 2005 to evaluate ways to enhance integrity of gas distribution pipeline systems. The work groups include representatives of OPS, state pipeline safety regulators, the gas distribution industry, the Gas Pipeline Technology Committee, the Fire Marshal's Association, and the public. The next meeting will be held May 17-19, 2005, in Dallas, Texas.

The May 17-19 meeting will be held at Hilton Suites Dallas North, 13402 Noel Road, Dallas, Texas 75240. The phone number for Hilton reservations is 972-503-8701. Meetings on May 17 and 18 will be held from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and May 19 from 8.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

The participants will be formed into four study groups to evaluate strategic options, risk control practices, protection against excavation damage, and data issues related to understanding distribution integrity threats. Interested persons may attend these meetings as observers. Observers will be given an opportunity to provide comments at the end of day.

Further information on gas distribution is available on the PHMSA website at <http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/> and click on Integrity Management –Distribution. The website provides links to other useful information, such as a meeting agenda, and enables viewers to submit questions to OPS regarding the workshop.

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